

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1, 5, 7, 10-24, and 26-31 will be pending in this application. Claims 2-4, 6, 8-9, 25 and 32 have been canceled. Claim 1 has been amended to recite the subject matter of canceled claim 32. Claims 11-24 were withdrawn. Claims 1, 5, 7, 10, and 26-31 stand ready for further action on the merits.

Election of Species

The Examiner has required an election of species in the present application. The Examiner request Applicants to choose a single combination fo polymeric components for A1 (one single polymer from group listed in Claim 1) and A2 (one single polymer from group listed in Claim 1).

For the purpose of examination of the present application, Applicants elect the combination of

Polymer (A1): Styrenic polymer and

Polymer (A2): Polyamide-series polymer,

with traverse.

Claim(s) 1, 5, 7, 10, and 28 are directed to the elected species.

It is implicit in 37 CFR 1.146 that if the Examiner does not find prior art, which renders the elected species unpatentable, or should Applicants distinguish from any cited art, with or without amendment, the Examiner is required to expand the search to include a reasonable number of additional species. Applicants respectfully submit that the scope of claim 1 includes a reasonable number of additional species for searching/examination purposes.

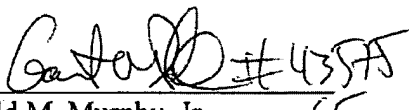
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Garth M. Dahlen, Ph.D., Esq., Registration No. 43,575 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

- ☐ Attached is a Petition for Extension of Time.
- ☐ Attached hereto is the fee transmittal listing the required fees.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: June 20, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By  #43575
Gerald M. Murphy, Jr. *for*
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